

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2017
7:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on November 9, 2017 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor John Hickman, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor's Announcements

Supervisor Hickman stated on 10/31/17 there was a meeting with the MTA. They are going to build a Rail Trail to connect from William's Lumber to Brewster. The Governor has set aside funds for this. Locally, people wanted to bring in a few real rail cars to the Hopewell Depot, but the Rail Trail has to be done before the Governor will consider this. It will start next year and be a two-year project called the Beacon Rail Trail. There will be a Public Hearing at the Pawling High School on Monday, 11/13 from 6-8 PM and one at Putnam County Topps Building Auditorium on Tuesday, November 14.

Supervisor Hickman stated there were several comments from the last meeting regarding Wildflower rates. Engineer Bryant checked the original proposal and they are right on target as far as what they told people the costs would be. The Home Owner's Association originally indicated that there would be a decrease in the homeowner fees since there would be a sewer bill.

Someone had questions regarding a business summit a few years ago. There is a possibility that there will be a business council starting in the future.

Supervisor Elect D'Alessandro stated he does have plans for a few different committees and councils going forward. They will be comprised of residents & professionals. One will be an economic or small business committee. Information will go on the website and Channel 22 for anyone interested in serving on these boards.

Supervisor Hickman said there were comments on the West Complex. Any industrial vacant building is an eyesore. We are hopeful to see these properties redeveloped. We are very happy to see the East Complex redeveloped and hope for the same for the West Complex. I don't believe there is any pollution on the West Complex. There are filter systems on the East Complex for those issues.

Someone asked about tax parcels in East Fishkill. There are 11,804 taxable parcels in East Fishkill. The Recreation Budget is about 1.27 million dollars, which is 6.6% of the total General and Highway Town Budget.

Roll Call: Supervisor Hickman asked Town Clerk Hurray to call the rolls.

Board Members in Attendance were

Peter	Nicolas	Thomas	Emanuele	John
Cassidy	D'Alessandro	Franco	Marinaro	Hickman

Also in attendance were:

Tom Wood, Attorney; Scott Bryant, Engineer; and Mark Pozniak, Comptroller.

Approve Minutes:

Supervisor Hickman stated there were no minutes to approve at this time.

Receive and File:

Supervisor Hickman stated there was nothing received.

Public Hearing:

1. Public Hearing for General and Highway Budgets

Motion to open the Public Hearing for the General and Highway Budgets: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Hickman stated budgets are very difficult and they try very hard to provide their services at a fair tax rate. They are under the tax cap again, with no major disruptions to services. He is very proud of the services the Town provides.

Comptroller Pozniak gave a presentation and overview of the preliminary 2018 Budget. He reviewed both the General Fund and the Highway Fund proposed budgets. He went over the approximate increases per \$300,000 assessed home. It is about a 3.34% increase. He also reviewed the increases in minimum wage. He stated that roughly 75% of everyone's tax bill goes to school taxes.

Supervisor Hickman stated the pension increases and health insurance costs are usual the major increases. He asked if there was anyone in the audience to make comments on the proposed Town Budgets.

Ed Sloshower asked about zero based budgeting and if it was something that was done. Comptroller Pozniak stated no. Mr. Sloshower asked about the 1.75% increase to elected officials. He asked how those percentage increases were figured.

Supervisor Hickman stated he has given up raises in the past. The contracts for employees are reviewed and he tries to stay in line with those increases for the elected officials.

Mr. Slosower asked about the Cemetery Fund.

Supervisor Hickman stated there is a state law that says when a cemetery is abandoned it becomes the responsibility of the town. There are at least four of them in East Fishkill.

Mr. Slosower asked about the Channel 22 charges and a 14.7% overall increase.

Comptroller Pozniak stated it is a result in the change of classification of the videographer from an employee to a subcontractor. Theoretically it's the same with the addition of \$2500.00 for equipment.

Mr. Slosower asked about the Town Planner having a 4.7% increase.

Mr. Pozniak stated that East Fishkill shares the Town Planner with another town and they pay the planner and we pay them for our share. This represents a total compensation increase of East Fishkill's portion.

Mr. Slosower asked about the line for Miscellaneous Home and Community Service. There is a 312.5% increase.

Supervisor Hickman stated they budget more because DEC is looking at all the landfills that have come off the registry for the last twenty years and did an inspection and testing and funds were put in this line item in case there are any engineering fees associated with this.

Mr. Slosower suggested putting footnotes on items like this to explain increases in the future. He asked about the minimum wage increase and the increase to Red Wing.

Comptroller Pozniak stated they do hope to see an increase in the revenues to cover some of those costs. Red Wing is still operating at a small loss.

Mr. Slosower asked for the total expenses for the Lime Kiln Facility.

Comptroller Pozniak stated the total cost is approximately \$77,000. He stated the membership revenues are approximately \$18,000. Staffing costs have been reduced by approximately \$20,000 by moving staff to that building. There is also revenue from field rentals. There is no debt on that property. He stated that recreation runs at a 1.2 million dollar loss annually across the board. Lime Kiln operates overall at a \$40,000 loss.

Board Member Marinaro stated he believes the building itself is costing approximately \$47,000 annually.

Mr. Sloshower suggested finding ways to generate more income from that facility. He suggested possibly partnering with Abilities First since Julie's Jungle is there. He asked about the sold equipment line.

Comptroller Pozniak stated that is for equipment to potentially be sold throughout the year.

Mr. Sloshower asked about the blacktop patch line and the budget amount being under what has already been spent for this year.

Supervisor Hickman stated there is more added to the paving budget. The year before was lower so it is a weather driven number.

Mr. Sloshower asked about the winter materials lines. He thought there was a large salt surplus from prior years' purchase.

Mr. Pozniak stated 2 years ago there was a mild winter and a surplus of salt. This year they went into the year with a completely stocked salt barn. Now they are getting back to normal. They are at 50% of the stock. They use historical costs to project what is needed. Engineer Bryant stated four years ago they ran out of salt.

Board Member Marinaro asked the Highway Superintendent the current salt inventory. Superintendent McClellan said there is a little over 3 tons of sand/salt mix in stock. He believes the budgeted amount is a very generous number. He stated they will need more sand as the winter proceeds. He believes they should be good on salt. He reminded everyone that they have to consider next winter also as it is part of the budgeted year. Superintendent McClellan stated what is in stock now should get the Town through this winter, but in the spring they will need to purchase new for the end of the year and going into 2019.

Mr. Sloshower stated he would rather see a line item for paving and transfer funds from there to salt if necessary.

Supervisor Hickman stated they don't know what kind of winter it's going to be and they do have a responsibility to keep the roads passible. There is always the option to transfer it back to paving if it's surplus funds. It's a very weather driven budget line.

Mr. Sloshower asked if the BAN on the money borrowed has been paid back.

Mr. Pozniak stated it is a December BAN.

Board Member Marinaro asked if the funds are at discretion of the Highway Superintendent as to how the money is spent.

Comptroller Pozniak stated only within the line items. The amount of sand and salt is at his discretion but he can't make a budget transfer or line item change.

Board Member Cassidy said he'd rather have the funds in snow removal than putting it in paving because he wouldn't want to tell someone their road was not paved because of a bad winter, but it would be better to tell them their road got paved because it was a mild one.

Board Member Marinaro asked if in the future, could the Highway Superintendent come to the Board or Comptroller and review the expenses.

Supervisor Hickman stated they could do that.

Board Member D'Alessandro stated he plans on having monthly department head meetings.

Mr. Sloshower asked about the John Jay sewer and if there is any additional cost to it.

Attorney Wood stated that just the districts in it will pay.

Mr. Sloshower asked if there is any projected revenue increases for 2018.

Comptroller Pozniak stated there are increases estimated.

Supervisor Hickman stated they are current with CHIPS.

Mr. Sloshower asked about the Town's long-term debt obligations.

Comptroller Pozniak stated that is the OPEB, which are not pension expenses. There is an actuarial firm that supplied the number at approximately \$30,000.

Mr. Sloshower thanked the Board for answering his questions.

Supervisor Hickman asked if there was anyone else that wanted to speak about the special benefit units. There was no one. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board.

Supervisor Elect D'Alessandro asked if it was 5 total vehicles to be replaced for the Police Department and if that was enough.

Supervisor Hickman said they are trying to build the fleet back up.

Supervisor Elect D'Alessandro asked about the MS4 budget having a small increase and he asked if there were new regulations from NYS to cover it.

Supervisor Hickman said they did not come into effect yet.

Supervisor Elect D'Alessandro said he had a resident call and ask about road line painting. He asked if they could do a budget transfer if they needed more funds for that and Supervisor Hickman said yes. There is also a contingency budget.

Board Member Franco stated that they need another police dog. He feels it is very important and needs to be pursued.

Board Member Marinaro asked for the approximate increase in revenue from last year.

Comptroller Pozniak said it is about \$800,000.

Board Member Marinaro feels the paving budget needs to be increased. He asked how the additional \$800,000 was allocated.

Comptroller Pozniak stated \$400,000 is in health insurance and the remainder is split between highway paving and equipment. The paving budget was not really increased last year, it was the salt savings from the prior year.

Board Member Marinaro asked for the percentage increase of the health insurance.

Comptroller Pozniak stated it was around 15%. It is not 100% predictable as there is an HRA involved. It is contractual.

Board Member Marinaro asked about the possibility of shared services.

Comptroller Pozniak said they have looked into a lot of different shared services options.

Supervisor Hickman said you have to be careful who you're partnering with, especially if you are looking at insurance or worker's compensation.

Comptroller Pozniak said they will be looking into different insurance for 2019.

There were no other questions or comments.

a) Close Public Hearing

Motion to close the Public Hearing: Board Member D'Alessandro. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

b) Adopt the 2018 Budget

Motion to adopt the 2018 Budget: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

Supervisor Hickman asked if there was anyone to speak on the agenda items only.

Mr. Sloshower asked if there could be attachments for the resolutions.

Supervisor Hickman said the music license was because background music that is played and copy-righted. There are four different vendors and they are not sure which one they will be using going forward. The sponsor of any facility that has music playing has to be covered by the music license agreements.

Mr. Sloshower asked about the refund of the building permit.

Engineer Bryant stated it was for someone who applied for a building permit and then withdrew their application. They applied for the refund and have since put in an application for a new house and would like this refund to be put towards that application.

Mr. Sloshower asked for more details in the resolutions on the website.

Resolutions:

1. Authorize Music License Agreement

**RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZING A LICENSE AGREEMENT)**

WHEREAS, in order to utilize live entertainment or mechanical music the Town has to enter into a License Agreement to avoid copyright infringement claims; and

WHEREAS, the agreement would allow the Town to continue to be able to hold live musical presentations and music played over mechanical means in the Town's recreation and other programs; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute an agreement to cover all music that will be by live musical presentations and music played over mechanical means in the Town's recreation and other town programs, no more than \$500.00.

Motion to authorize the Music License Agreement: Board Member Franco.
Seconded: Board Member Cassidy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Refund a Building Fee

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF A BUILDING PERMIT FEE)

WHEREAS, we received request of the Building Department to make a partial refund for a building permit application in the amount of \$1,162.00; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Building Department the applicant will transfer the refund to a new permit; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the amount totaling \$1,162.00 be and hereby authorized and approved, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Building Department be and hereby is authorized to apply said payment to the new permit.

Motion to refund a Building Fee: Board Member D'Alessandro. Seconded: Board Member Cassidy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

3. Adopt Standard Work-week hours for Part-Time Officials

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that the **TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL** hereby establishes the following as standard workdays for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities:

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

RS 2417-A

Town of East Fishkill

Title	Standard Workday (hrs/days)	Name	Social Security No. (Last 4)	Reg. No.	Tier 1	Term Begins/ Ends	Days per Month (based on record of activities)
Elected Officials							
Supervisor	7 hours	John L. Hickman	████	██████		1/1/16 - 12/31/17	21.67
Town Clerk	7 hours	Carol A. Hurray	████	██████	X	1/1/16 - 12/31/17	N/A
Highway Superintendent	7 hours	William E. McClellan	████	██████		1/1/16 - 12/31/17	21.67
Receiver of Taxes	7 hours	Claudia D. Heckert	████	██████		1/1/16 - 12/31/19	21.67
Councilman	6 hours	Peter J. Cassidy	████	██████		1/1/16 - 12/31/19	11.11
Councilman	6 hours	Nicholas D'Alessandro	████	██████		1/1/16 - 12/31/19	12.89
Councilman	6 hours	Thomas A. Franco	████	██████		1/1/14 - 12/31/17	7.33
Justice	6 hours	Frederick D. Romig	████	██████		1/1/15 - 12/31/18	15.11
Justice	6 hours	Brian M. Rudner	████	██████		1/1/17 - 12/31/20	7.88

Motion to adopt standard work-week hours for Part-Time Officials: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member D'Alessandro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Accept Various Town Roads

RESOLUTION

(CONFIRMING ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN ROADS BY THE TOWN)

WHEREAS, over the years the Town has accepted many roads as Town highways. The Town has received a study from the state; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that many have not been added to the NYS Inventory of Town roads; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board and Highway Superintendent to clarify the status of the annexed roads and add them to the road inventory;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the roads set forth on the annexed schedule are all accepted as Town roads in East Fishkill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Highway Superintendent is authorized to apply to have the roads in the annexed schedule added to the inventory of Town roads. The roads are Bailey Road and Galway Road.

Motion to accept various Town Roads: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member D'Alessandro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Budget Transfers:

Supervisor Hickman stated there are no transfers at this time.

Take Public Comments on General Town Issues:

Supervisor Hickman asked if there was anybody in the audience who would like to speak on general Town issues. He stated that the vote on the Hillside Lake Bond did not pass. There will be a new proposal to remove the dam, drain the lake and then the Town will take it over as a green area. There would be no special district cost or taxes. DEC likes to remove dams, so there should be grant funds available. There would be the need for permits. At the December 14th meeting there will be a resolution prepared for the dissolution that includes this plan. He is open to hearing any plans from the community also.

Robert Grasso stated he would be against this proposal.

Attorney Wood stated that there is a proposal that will be heard at the Public Hearing. If there are other proposals, they can all be heard at the Public Hearing, but after the Public Hearing a final plan has to be adopted. There will be a Public Hearing in January and when the Board adopts the plan, there will be a vote to be held to either approve or reject the plan.

Board Member Marinaro asked if the Board was going to take care of cleaning out everything they might find when the lake drains.

Attorney Wood stated they would need DEC permits.

Supervisor Hickman said they would still be looking for grants to do this. They would take care of the disposal if it were turned over to the Town as green land.

Board Member Marinaro would like to have a better idea of the costs involved.

Supervisor Elect D'Alessandro asked if the Highway Department could do any of the work and what would happen with the filtration grant.

Engineer Bryant stated they may be able to do some of the re-contouring and removal of debris.

Supervisor Hickman stated the grant would have to be modified.

Keith Dimaso discussed Hillside Lake. He expressed his concern over the timeline.

Board Member Marinaro stated there is more work to be done on this proposal. He believes they should have more meetings and take community comments.

Mary Ellen spoke about the Hillside Lake proposals. She thanked those who voted for the proposal

Mr. Grasso spoke about the proposals for Hillside Lake.

John Curzio spoke about the Carmel School District's capital project that is going up for a vote.

Mr. Slosower stated last month he incorrectly referred to Bright Land Solar as GlobalFoundries and he asked about the pending lawsuit.

Comments from Town Board Members:

Board Member Cassidy thanked everyone who voted and thanked the Veterans, as Veterans Day is approaching.

Board Member Franco congratulated the Southern Dutchess Patriots for winning the Taconic Youth Championship. East Fishkill Soccer Club is part of the East Hudson area. One of our coaches got recognized as one of the Coaches of the Year.

Supervisor Elect D'Alessandro stated November is Cancer Awareness Month. He thanked everyone for coming out to vote. He will work hard for the community.

Board Member Marinaro thanked the citizens who came out to vote. He will continue to work diligently.

Board Member Cassidy asked that everyone that ran, please take their signs down.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:47

PM: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting:

December 14, 2017

Respectfully Submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Carol A. Hurray
–November 18, 2017